



# IFNEC Ministerial CONFERENCE

Labadi Beach Hotel

Accra, Ghana

1-3 NOVEMBER 2023

## PROGRAMME



# PROGRAMME

**WEDNESDAY, 1 NOVEMBER 2023**

## **IFNEC GALA DINNER**

Welcome remarks by **H.E. Nana Akufo-Addo**, President of Ghana  
Location and time: Garden Glass Tent, Labadi Beach Hotel, 18:30

**THURSDAY, 2 NOVEMBER 2023**

## **MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE**

### **FACILITATING THE DEPLOYMENT OF ADVANCED NUCLEAR ENERGY IN EMERGING ECONOMIES**

Many African governments envision nuclear energy as a key element in their future energy strategies to address climate change and energy security challenges. In this context, the International Framework for Nuclear Energy Cooperation (IFNEC) Ministerial Conference will bring together high-level officials, nuclear industry representatives and key stakeholders to discuss regional and international cooperation and policies needed to advance nuclear energy programmes. Conference sessions will address nuclear financing, regulation, human resource development, supply chain development, mapping and project development.

9:00-9:15 **Opening and welcome remarks**

- **Kwaku Afriyie**, Minister of Environment, Science, Technology, and Innovation of Ghana

9:15-9:30 **Opening remarks**

- **Aleshia Duncan**, IFNEC Chair

9:30-10:30 **Morning roundtable discussion**

*National statements by ministers on the current state of nuclear energy policies in their country and their plans for the future.*

10:30-11:00 **Coffee break and group photo**

11:00-11:10 **Host country reflection**

- **Stephen Yamoah**, Executive Director, Nuclear Power Ghana (Ghana Representative to IFNEC)

11:10-12:30 **Session 1: Cooperation with newcomers: What is needed? What is possible?**

*Newcomer countries often face challenges when establishing supply chains, building expertise and securing public acceptance for nuclear energy. How can countries with more established programmes support these countries as they start out on this journey?*

- Moderated by **Aleshia Duncan**, IFNEC Chair

### *Panellists:*

- **Enobot Agboraw**, Executive Secretary, AFCONE
- **Samuel Boakye Dampare**, Director General of Ghana Atomic Energy Commission
- **Jeroen Verheul**, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Ghana
- **Shaukat Abdulrazak**, Director for the Division for Africa, Department of Technical Cooperation, IAEA
- **Yu Xuefeng**, Deputy Director General, Department of Business Development and International Cooperation, China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC)
- **John Wagner**, Director, Idaho National Laboratory

### *Discussion*

12:30-14:00 **Lunch**

14:00-14:30 **Afternoon roundtable discussion**

*In a continuation of the discussion from the morning session on the current state of nuclear energy policies and plans, this session will feature statements from observer organisations.*

14:30-14:45 **Presentation: NEA initiative on Improving Gender Balance in the Nuclear Sector**

*The lack of women in technical and leadership roles in the nuclear energy field threatens to limit growth and innovation in the sector. In response, the 38 OECD countries recently adopted an international policy instrument to improve gender balance in the nuclear field, based on the first-ever comprehensive data from NEA countries on women's representation and perspectives in the sector. This session will outline ongoing NEA efforts to help countries attract, advance and retain women in the nuclear sector.*

- **Fiona Rayment**, Chief Science and Technology Officer of the United Kingdom National Nuclear Laboratory and Chair of the NEA Gender Balance Task Group

14:45-15:00 **Coffee break**

15:00-16:30 **Session 2: Building effective policies for radioactive waste management**

*The disposal of the various types of nuclear waste is the responsibility of national governments. After decades of research, the international scientific community is confident that placing high-level radioactive waste in deep geological repositories (DGRs) is the safest and most effective approach. While the science is solid, progress on developing DGRs requires deliberate and time-intensive work to engage public stakeholders in the decisions made regarding nuclear waste disposal. This session will focus on how countries are building public confidence in the implementation of these major technological projects.*

- Moderated by **Rebecca Tadesse**, NEA Head of Division of Radioactive Waste Management and Decommissioning

### *Panellists:*

- **Toshio Sano**, Commissioner, Japan Atomic Energy Commission
- **Enobot Agboraw**, Executive Secretary, AFCONE
- **Michael Goff**, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, US Department of Energy's Office of Nuclear Energy
- **Link Murray**, President, Deep Geo Repository, Canada

### *Discussion*

16:30-18:00 **Session 3: Harmonising requirements: Is it in reach?**

*Enhancing multilateral cooperation within existing regulatory frameworks, with a view to harmonisation of regulatory requirements and practices, has been a policy aim for some time in many countries with established nuclear energy programmes. This session will benchmark current progress, as well as explore how these efforts might impact newcomer countries.*

- Moderated by **William D. Magwood, IV**, NEA Director-General

*Panellists:*

- **Rumina Velshi**, former President and CEO of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC)
- **David A. Wright**, Commissioner, US Nuclear Regulatory Commission

*Discussion*

18:00-18:15 **Closing session and next steps**

*The session chairs will present their comments and observations from the three sessions.*

*Comments and observations from Session 1*

- **Aleshia Duncan**, IFNEC Chair

*Comments and observations from Session 2*

- **Rebecca Tadesse**, NEA Head of Division of Radioactive Waste Management and Decommissioning

*Comments and observations from Session 3*

- **William D. Magwood, IV**, NEA Director-General

18:15-18:30 **Concluding remarks**

- **Kwaku Afriyie**, Minister of Environment, Science, Technology, and Innovation of Ghana

**FRIDAY, 3 NOVEMBER 2023**  
**IFNEC STEERING GROUP MEETING**

- 9:00-9:15 **Opening remarks**
- **Aleshia Duncan**, Chair of IFNEC
- 9:15-10:00 **Election of IFNEC Vice-Chairs**
- 10:00-10:30 **Summary and observations from the Ministerial Conference**
- **Aleshia Duncan**, IFNEC Chair
- Presentation by IFNEC Technical Secretariat
- **Jamelee Bal**, IFNEC Secretariat
- Open discussion on next steps
- 10:30-12:30 **Special session: IFNEC priorities and processes in 2024 and beyond**
- Introduction and observations by the IFNEC Chair
- Statements by each Vice-Chair
- 12:30-14:00 **Lunch**
- 14:00-15:00 **International financing of nuclear projects**
- Remarks:*
- **Paul Murphy**, Managing Director, Murphy Energy & Infrastructure Consulting, LLC
  - **Hazeen Ashby**, Acting Senior Vice President & Chief of Staff, White House Liaison, Export-Import Bank of the United States
  - **Chen Hongyu**, General Representative of Africa Office, China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC)
- Discussion*
- 15:00-15:30 **Brief national updates and reports from observer organisations**
- 15:30-16:00 **Secretariat report**
- 16:00-17:00 **Final observations from the Chair and Vice-Chairs**
- 17:00-17:15 **Discussion about the next IFNEC Steering Group Meeting**
- 17:15-17:45 **Meeting summary and closing by the Chair**

# SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



## **Kwaku Afriyie, Minister of Environment, Science, Technology, and Innovation of Ghana**

Dr Kwaku Afriyie is the Minister for Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation of Ghana and a Member of Parliament for the Sefwi Wiawso Constituency. He is a medical doctor by profession and previously served as Minister of Health and Minister of Lands and Natural Resources. He has also served as Western Regional Minister and Minister of State Interests and Governance Authority (SIGA).

He obtained a Master of Public Health degree from Tulane University, New Orleans, an MB CBH from the University of Ghana Medical School, and is a Fellow of the Ghana College of Physicians and Surgeons. Dr Afriyie was the Managing Director of Afriyie Farms from 1990 to 2016 and the Managing Director of Greenshield Hospital from 1994 to 2014.



## **Matthew Opoku Prempeh, Minister of Energy of Ghana**

Dr Matthew Opoku Prempeh is a medical doctor by training and has been the Minister of Energy since March 2021. From 2017 to 2021 he served as the Minister of Education. He has been a Member of Parliament since 2009 and currently represents the people of the Manhyia South constituency in the Ashanti Region.

He was a medical officer at Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital from 1995 to 1997 but left in 1998 to pursue his Master's degree in clinical epidemiology at the Netherlands Institute of Health Sciences. He worked at the UK National Health Service as Senior Health Officer from 1999 until 2003. He became a member of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of the United Kingdom in 2002.

Dr Prempeh became the Executive Chairman of Keyedmap Services Limited, Ghana, a private Security Firm in 2003 but resigned in 2009 after he joined the political race in Ghana in 2008.

He has served on several Parliamentary Committees such as Health, Appointments, Special Budget, and Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation.



### **Aleshia Duncan, IFNEC Steering Group Chair**

Ms Aleshia Duncan serves as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for International Nuclear Energy Policy and Cooperation in the Office of Nuclear Energy at the US Department of Energy. She has worked in various capacities in the international nuclear energy policy arena both domestically and abroad.

Ms Duncan currently also serves as the Chair of the International Framework for Nuclear Energy Cooperation (IFNEC), which brings together 64 members and 5 international organisations with the common goal of ensuring the safe and reliable use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes.

Previously, Ms Duncan held two overseas posts. In 2016, she joined the OECD Nuclear Energy Agency in France as the Policy Adviser to IFNEC, co-ordinating its policies and programmes. She continued in that role in 2017, in addition to serving as the Senior Advisor for Multilateral Coordination and Secretary of the Steering Committee at the NEA, until her departure at the end of 2018.

From October 2010 to December 2013, Ms Duncan was posted at the US Embassy in Tokyo, Japan as the Director for Nuclear Operations and served as a diplomat in the capacity of Energy Attaché. Ms Duncan had the opportunity to liaise with the Government of Japan regularly before, during and after its change in nuclear policies and was awarded the Secretary's Honor Award for her efforts in supporting the co-ordination of the United States crisis response to the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant accident.

Ms Duncan also has an extensive background in human resources in the areas of employee and labour relations, performance management, employee discipline and contract negotiation and administration.

She holds a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations from Pennsylvania State University and a Master of Arts in Community Counseling from Trinity University in Washington, D.C.



### **William D. Magwood, IV, Director-General, Nuclear Energy Agency**

Mr Magwood took up his duties as Director-General of the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) on 1 September 2014. He has extensive experience in both the regulatory and developmental aspects of nuclear energy, including at the international level.

From 2010 to 2014, he served as one of the five Commissioners appointed by the US President and confirmed by the US Senate to the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). While a Commissioner, he served as a global voice for the importance of nuclear regulatory independence and advocated the necessity of maintaining strong, credible and technically sound nuclear regulation in the United States and all countries that use nuclear power.

Prior to his appointment at the NRC, from 2005 to 2010 he provided independent strategic and policy advice to US and international clients on energy, environment, education and technology policy issues. From 1998 to 2005, Mr Magwood was Director of the US Government's civilian nuclear energy programme at the US Department of Energy (DOE). During his tenure, he established the Idaho National Laboratory (INL); created activities that reversed the decline of US nuclear technology education; and launched important initiatives such as the Generation IV International Forum (GIF) and US "Nuclear Power 2010," which helped restart nuclear plant construction in the United States. He was also actively involved in the work of the NEA, serving as a Steering Committee Bureau member from 1999 to 2003, and as Chairman of the Steering Committee from 2004 to 2005.

Prior to his experience at the DOE, Mr Magwood managed electric utility research and nuclear policy programmes at the Edison Electric Institute in Washington, DC, and was a scientist at Westinghouse Electric Corporation in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Mr Magwood, a US national, holds Bachelor's degrees in physics and English from Carnegie Mellon University and a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Pittsburgh.





**Shaukat Abdulrazak, Director for the Division for Africa, Department of Technical Cooperation, International Atomic Energy Agency**

Shaukat Abdulrazak is the Director for the Division for Africa in the Department of Technical Cooperation at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). He facilitates IAEA technical co-operation support to 47 countries in Africa, helping African members address their needs in areas such as energy, health and nutrition, food and agriculture, industrial application, water and environment, using nuclear science and technology for socio-economic development.

Before joining the IAEA, Dr Abdulrazak worked as CEO at the Kenya National Commission for Science, Technology, and Innovation. He has more than 27 years of experience working in various leadership and advisory positions, including as Chairman of African Technology Policy Studies (ATPS), Member of the Kenya National Economic Social Council, and Commissioner of the African Commission on Nuclear Energy (AFCONE).

Dr Abdulrazak is a Fellow of the World Academy of Sciences, the African Academy of Sciences, the Japan Society for the Promotion of Sciences, and a member of WiN Global. He has published widely in international journals and for scientific conferences. He completed his undergraduate studies at Egerton University, Kenya and he obtained his MSc and PhD degrees from the University of Aberdeen, United Kingdom, and a Post Doctorate from the Shimane University, Japan.



**Enobot Agboraw, Executive Secretary of AFCONE**

Enobot Agboraw is the Executive Secretary of the African Commission on Nuclear Energy (AFCONE). He previously worked at the International Atomic Energy Agency for 32 years in various roles, including on safeguards and nuclear fuel cycle development. He advocates for a multilateral approach to addressing Africa's energy poverty to contribute to Africa's Agenda 2063.



**Hazeen Ashby, Acting Senior Vice President & Chief of Staff, White House Liaison, Export-Import Bank of the United States**

Hazeen Y. Ashby joined the Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM) after serving as the Policy Director for the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee (DSCC). Prior to her time at the DSCC, Ms Ashby served as the Senior Counsel for the US Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, where she also worked as the Chief Counsel for the minority staff under Ranking Member Bill Nelson (D-FL). Before arriving on Capitol Hill, Ms Ashby was the Director for Technology & Telecom Policy at the National Urban League, where she monitored policy developments related to technology, telecommunications, the decennial census and civic engagement, and directed advocacy strategies advancing the Urban League's legislative agenda in those areas. She also served as the Senior Policy Counsel for the Culture Program at Third Way and as Associate Director of Student Chapters at the American Constitution Society for Law and Policy. Ms Ashby earned her Juris Doctor (JD) degree from the Howard University School of Law and her Bachelor's degree in social policy from Northwestern University.



**Samuel Boakye Dampare, Director General of Ghana Atomic Energy Commission**

Samuel Boakye Dampare became Professor of Nuclear Earth Sciences in January 2020 after attaining Associate Professorship in the same field in February 2012. He comes to the position of Director General of the Ghana Atomic Energy Commission (GAEC) with over 25 years of work experience in diverse research and academic roles. These include nearly two decades at the GAEC, where he has worked and consulted for several organisations locally and internationally, including the African Union Commission (AUC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Prof Dampare obtained a PhD in geology in 2008 at Okayama University, Japan, through a Japanese government scholarship (Monbukagakusho). In November 2008, he was further awarded a two-year postdoctoral fellowship by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) to conduct collaborative research at Okayama University under the supervision of Prof Tsugio Shibata (Host Researcher). He has received several awards and titles, including: the Dean of the Graduate School of Natural Science and Technology Award for Academic Excellence, Okayama University (2006); the IAEA award for Advanced Regional (AFRA) Training Course on "Isotope Data Interpretation" 2002; a Bank of Ghana Graduate Fellowship, University of Ghana (1998-1999); the University of Ghana Scholarship for Staff Development (1997-1998); and the MacCallien Memorial Prize for Best Graduating Student in Geology, Geological Society of Ghana (1997). Prof Dampare graduated from the University of Ghana, Legon with BSc (Hons) and MPhil degrees in geology in 1996 and 2001, respectively.



**Chen Hongyu, General Representative of Africa Office, China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC)**

Mr Chen obtained his Bachelor's in Engineering Project Management from Harbin Institute of Technology (HIT). Mr Chen began his career in 2004 as an engineer and has worked in the nuclear industry for more than 19 years.

In June 2022, Mr Chen was appointed as General Representative of CNNC Africa Office.



**Paul Murphy, Managing Director, Murphy Energy & Infrastructure Consulting, LLC**

Paul Murphy is the Founder and Managing Director of Murphy Energy & Infrastructure Consulting, LLC. He focuses on multiple aspects of the nuclear industry – from legal and policy matters, including international regulatory and treaty frameworks and issues regarding nuclear liability, to strategies for creating and financing nuclear power programmes and the identification and mitigation of associated risks. In this work he represents developers/owners, investors, lenders and contractors on nuclear projects internationally. Mr Murphy now also serves as the Co-Head of Public Finance &

Government Relations for Cross River Infrastructure Partners, and he is an Affiliate of Nuclear Economics Consulting Group. Mr Murphy is also the Chair of the Advisory Board for Segra Capital Management. He is a member of the Advisory Board for the Global America Business Institute and has also served a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineer's Technology Advisory Panel for Clean Energy. Mr Murphy is a six-time appointee to the US Secretary of Commerce's Civilian Nuclear Trade Advisory Committee (CINTAC) and has advised the US Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee and the US Department of Energy on the development of legislation concerning US nuclear exports.

Mr Murphy is a graduate of Princeton University's School of Public and International Affairs and a graduate of Harvard Law School.



**Link Murray, President, Deep Geo Repository, Canada**

Mr Murray studied biology while working as a commercial fisherman. He did graduate research and earned a Master of Science degree at the University of Zimbabwe and an MBA in the United States. He built a global business in seafood fishing, farming, processing, and marketing. He later worked in venture capital in New York City and at CVS Health with overseas consulting.



### **Fiona Rayment, Chief Science and Technology Officer, National Nuclear Laboratory**

Dr Fiona Rayment has dedicated 30 years to the nuclear sector with extensive strategic and operational experience. She is a chartered chemist and engineer with a PhD in chemistry from the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, and a fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering, the Royal Society of Chemistry and of the UK Nuclear Institute. She has an MBA from Manchester Business School.

Dr Rayment has recently served as a member of Euratom's Science and Technology Committee, the Idaho National Laboratory's Nuclear Science and Technology Advisory Committee, the American Nuclear Society Board, and the UK Nuclear Institute and is the immediate past chair of the UK's Nuclear Skills Strategy Group. Her other roles across the sector include being a member of the Nuclear Industry Council and of the Independent Advisory Panel of the Office of Nuclear Regulation's Chief Nuclear Inspector. She is chair of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Energy Division at CEA - the French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission – a non-executive member of the UK Space Agency Steering Board and a patron of Women in Nuclear UK.

In addition to representing the United Kingdom at a variety of international meetings, Dr Rayment is a regular keynote and plenary speaker at international nuclear conferences and is a vice chair of the Nuclear Energy Agency's Steering Committee Bureau and Policy Director of the Generation IV International Forum.

Dr Rayment has long advocated widening participation in science and engineering and champions the nuclear sector's approach to diversity and inclusion.

She was awarded an OBE in 2017 and the French Légion d'Honneur in 2020.



### **Michael Goff, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, US Department of Energy's Office of Nuclear Energy**

Dr Michael Goff is the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for the US Department of Energy's Office of Nuclear Energy. Prior to joining the office as the PDAS, Dr Goff was on assignment from Idaho National Laboratory (INL) to the Office of Nuclear Energy, where he was serving his third term as Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary. Dr Goff also served a multi-year assignment as the Assistant Director for Nuclear Energy/Senior Policy Advisor in the Office of Science and Technology Policy in the Executive Office of the President. He has held several management and research positions over more than 30 years at INL and Argonne National Laboratory. Dr Goff has more than 70 publications related to the nuclear fuel cycle including separations technology, high-level waste development, and safeguards. Dr Goff has a Bachelor of Nuclear Engineering, a MSNE and a PhD in Nuclear Engineering, all from Georgia Tech.



### **Toshio Sano, Commissioner, Japan Atomic Energy Commission**

Mr Toshio Sano was appointed as a Commissioner of the Japan Atomic Energy Commission in December 2017, and reappointed in December 2020. He has developed a career in diplomacy since joining the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) in 1977, and has gained considerable experience on issues related to non-proliferation and international co-operation in energy policy. He has served as a Vice-Chair of the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons. His former postings include as Ambassador to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva from 2013 to 2017, Ambassador to the Kingdom of Denmark from 2010 to 2013, Director-General of the Disarmament, Non-proliferation and Science Department of MOFA from 2008 to 2010, Director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Division of MOFA from 1998 to 1999, and Director of the Energy Resources Division of MOFA from 1997 to 1998. He was also seconded to the International Energy Agency (IEA) in 1984. He graduated with a Bachelor of Law from the University of Tokyo in 1977.



### **Rebecca Tadesse, Head of the NEA Division of Radioactive Waste Management and Decommissioning (RWMD), NEA**

Ms Rebecca Tadesse is the Head of the NEA Division of Radioactive Waste Management and Decommissioning (RWMD). Furthermore, she has a significant role in the co-ordination of NEA activities related to the decommissioning and clean-up of the Fukushima Daiichi site.

Prior to joining the NEA, Ms Tadesse served as the Chief of the Radiation Protection Branch in the Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research at the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Ms Tadesse has over 27 years of domestic and international experience in the operation and radiation safety of research reactors, fuel fabrication facilities, nuclear power plants and biomedical research facilities. Ms Tadesse also served as Senior Policy Advisor for Commissioners and Senior Operational Assistant in the Executive Directors Office.

In addition, Ms Tadesse was the Chief of the Material Decommissioning Branch, where she was responsible for managing the licensing and the oversight of complex decommissioning nuclear facilities. She held numerous positions in the Reactor, Material and Fuels area at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) as Health Physicist, Project Manager and Technical Assistant to the Director. Prior to her appointment with the NRC, she worked for private industry and the federal government as a Radiation Physicist at Commonwealth Edison Nuclear Corporation, General Atomics defense Contractor Company, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Ms Tadesse is a US national and holds a BSc degree in radiation physics from Purdue University and an MSc degree in environmental science/policy from Johns Hopkins University.



### **Rumina Velshi, former President and Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, Canada**

Rumina Velshi was President and CEO of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) from August 2018 until October 2023, after serving as a Commission member since 2011.

With a background in the energy sector, Ms Velshi gained extensive technical, regulatory, and adjudication expertise throughout her career, primarily at Ontario Hydro and Ontario Power Generation. She also contributed to the Ontario Energy Board.

In February 2020, she was appointed Chair of the Commission on Safety Standards by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Ms Velshi is a strong advocate for STEM careers, particularly for young women. As CNSC President, she launched an initiative to support women in STEM roles, collaborating with partners to enhance STEM education. She has delivered international keynote addresses on dismantling barriers for women in STEM.

A founding member of Canada's Women in Science and Engineering, Ms Velshi serves on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Institute for Women in Engineering and Science (CIWES), which advances global STEM education. She also contributed to Scientists in School, offering STEM workshops to over 700 000 students annually.

Her academic qualifications include a Bachelor of Applied Science in civil engineering, a Master of Engineering in chemical engineering, and a Master of Business Administration, all from the University of Toronto.



### **Jeroen Verheul, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Ghana**

Ambassador Jeroen Verheul started his career in foreign affairs in 1985. He has been posted in different positions at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in The Hague, as well as at the embassies of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Cameroon, Zambia, Ethiopia, and the Permanent Representation to the OECD in Paris, France. He also served as Ambassador to Uganda, Yemen and Tanzania, as well as Ambassador at large for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation. In 2021 he was appointed as the Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Togo, residing in Accra.



### **John C. Wagner, Director, Idaho National Laboratory**

Dr John C. Wagner is the Director of Idaho National Laboratory (INL). He is responsible for management and integration of a large, multipurpose laboratory whose mission focuses on nuclear energy, national and homeland security, and energy and environment science and technology. Wagner began serving as INL Director in December 2020. He has more than 20 years of experience performing research, and managing and leading research and development projects, programs and organisations.

He has been at INL since 2016 and served as Associate Laboratory Director for Nuclear Science and Technology (NS&T) since 2017. His previous roles included Director of Domestic Programmes in NS&T and Director of the Technical Integration Office for the DOE-NE Light Water Reactor Sustainability Programme at INL. Wagner initially joined INL as the Chief Scientist at the Materials and Fuels Complex in 2016. Prior to joining INL, he worked for nearly 17 years at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, where he held several research and leadership roles in reactor and fuel cycle technologies.



### **David A. Wright, Commissioner, US Nuclear Regulatory Commission**

David A. Wright was first sworn in as a Commissioner of the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission on 30 May 2018. He is currently serving a term ending 30 June 2025. Commissioner Wright was Owner/President of Wright Directions, LLC, a strategic consulting, policy development and communications business focusing on energy and water. During this time, he also was a member of the advisory council of the Bipartisan Policy Center's Nuclear Waste Initiative; and an Ex Officio Member and Chairman Emeritus of the Nuclear Waste Strategy Coalition, an ad hoc organisation representing the interests of industry, state officials, local governments and tribes, and consumer advocates. From 2004-2013, Commissioner Wright served the South Carolina Public Service Commission in a variety of capacities, including Vice Chairman and Chairman. From 2011-2012, he served as President of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioner; he had previously served the association in other capacities, including as a member of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors. From 2010-2013, Commissioner Wright was a member of the Advisory Board of the Board of Directors of the Electric Power Research Institute. Previously, he was elected councilman and mayor in Irmo, S.C., and to the South Carolina House of Representatives. A colon cancer survivor, Commissioner Wright is an advocate for cancer awareness and education and a former member of the Leadership Council for the Cancer Centres at the University of South Carolina. He was presented with the Community Champions Award by Molina Healthcare of South Carolina in 2016 and the Blue Star Service Excellence Award by the USC Center for Colon Cancer Research in 2014. In 1996, he received South Carolina's highest citizen honor, The Order of the Palmetto. Commissioner Wright received a bachelor's in political science from Clemson University.



### **Stephen Yamoah, Executive Director, Nuclear Power Ghana**

Dr Stephen Yamoah is the Executive Director of Nuclear Power Ghana (NPG), the owner-operator organisation responsible for nuclear power project development with experience in planning, implementation, and management of Nuclear Power Infrastructure Development.

Prior to the appointment as the Executive Director of NPG, Dr Yamoah served as Deputy Director of the Nuclear Power Institute (NPI) of Ghana Atomic Energy Commission (GAEC) where he led technical studies and managed different workgroups on Nuclear Power Infrastructure Development for Ghana's Nuclear Power Programme. Dr Yamoah also served on the Energy Infrastructure Committee of Ghana's forty-year National Infrastructure Plan (NIP), a project undertaken by the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) of Ghana.

A Scientist by profession, Dr Yamoah has over 22 years working experience in research, development, and academic roles, including 14 years as a Nuclear Engineer at GAEC and a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Nuclear Engineering, Graduate School of Nuclear & Allied Sciences (SNAS) of the University of Ghana. Dr Yamoah graduated with Bachelor of Science (BSc.) degree in Mechanical Engineering at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology and a Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.) degree in Nuclear Engineering at the Graduate School of Nuclear and Allied Sciences, University of Ghana. After a successful completion of a Sandwich Ph.D. programme at the Institute of Nuclear Engineering, Technical University of Munich, Germany, he was awarded a Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Nuclear Engineering at the Graduate School of Nuclear and Allied Sciences, University of Ghana.



### **Yu Xuefeng, Deputy Director General, Department of Business Development and International Cooperation, China National Nuclear Corporation**

Mr Yu obtained his Master's degree in Mechanical Manufacturing and Automation from Xi'an University of Technology. Mr Yu began his career in 2010 as an engineer and has worked in the nuclear industry for more than 13 years. Previously, he was the Vice President of Fujian Fuqing Nuclear Power Co., Ltd.

In August 2023, Mr Yu was appointed as Deputy Director-General of the Department of Business Development and International Cooperation at the China National Nuclear Corporation (CNNC).

# NOTES



**IFNEC**

INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR NUCLEAR ENERGY COOPERATION